8:Schaefer A-5 (1900-1901) 1904
MR13 Fellahin MR13
Upper Egypt

To the Saint of Ṭanṭa.

8.

Es-Seiyid (Master or literally the Master) Aḥmed el-Bedawi is the celebrated saint, whose grave lies in the city of Ṭanṭa in the Delta (compare No. 39). On his birthday (Mûlid), which is celebrated yearly by high masses, a flood of visitors from afar, is drawn hither. In the festal decorations at this time, as on all other such occasions in Egypt, little lamps take a prominent place beside the gay pennants. Ll. 3—5 describe the building covering the tomb of the saint.

Ya Seiyid, yalla ya Seiyid!
Ya bâb in-nabi, ya Seiyid,
Yabu ʿatabe ḥaḍra, ya Seiyid,
Yabu ḍabbe faḍḍa, ya Seiyid,
Yabu bâb mezauwa', ya Seiyid!
Win ʿišt ana lagī-lak, ya Seiyid,
wa'id ʾanadîlak, ya Seiyid!

O Seiyid, on! Seiyid!
Thou door to the Prophet, O Seiyid,
Thou, with the green threshold, O Seiyid,
Thou, with the silver latch, O Seiyid,
Thou, with the gay-colored door, O Seiyid!
And if I live, I shall come to thee, O Seiyid,
And light thy lamps, O Seiyid!

3. The saint is mediator between mankind and the Prophet, as the latter is between mankind and God; compare No. 1, l. 2.